(d) The requirement of E10 exchanges is not limited to 6 lakh lines per annum. The Mankapur Unit of Indian Telephone Industries Ltd. has a licensed production capacity of 5 lakh lines per annum and the Government has not permitted additional production of E10 exchanges in the private sector.

(e) A large number of manufacturing units have been set up for production of small and medium size exchanges.

Maritime boundary between India and Sri Lanka

412. SHRI S. MADHAVAN. Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any action to fix the maritime boundary between India and Sri Lanka as per the Agreement of 1974, entered into between the two countries;

(b) whether the traditional rights of Indian fishermen to fish near Kachativu, of the pilgrims to visit Kachativu and of migration rights in each others waters are protected in spite of the division of maritime boundary as per the provisions of 1974 agreement;

(c) whether Government had made a statement in Parliament on 23rd July, 1974 declaring that the traditional rights of Indian fishermen will not be affected because of 1974 agreement;

(d) whether the Sri Lankan Navy is taking action against Indian fishermen for violating the maritime boundary, and

(e) what steps Government have taken to protect the traditional rights of Indian fishermen?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) The maritime boundary line between India and Sri Lanka has been delimited through two Agreements signed in 1974 and in 1976.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) There have been cases of the Sri Lankan Navy taking action against Indian fishermen for alleged violation of the maritime boundary. All such cases have been taken up by Government with the Sri Lankan authorities.

Human rights of Indians in Fiji

413. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is feeling in the country that India are doing virtually nothing to restore human rights to ethnic Indians, who are being subjected to brutal repression in Fiji;

(b) what efforts have been made by NAM and the U.N. to stop the repression; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government to enlist the support of NAM countries and the U.N. therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The issue of violation of human rights in Fiji has been raised by India at the United Nations General Assembly, the Uinted Nations Commission on Human Rights and at other relevant multilateral fora.

Assurance about safety of Indians in South Africa

414. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state what assurances have been obtained from Mr. Nelson Mandela about the continued safety of the ethnic Indians in South Africa after restoration of majority rule in that country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): The African National Congress was founded on the inspiration of the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi. Dr. Nelson Mandela during his visit acknowledged the tremendous contribution made by South Africans of Indian origin in the anti-apartheid struggle. There was no question of obtaining assurances from the ANC leader about the continued

safety of ethnic Indians in South Africa after majority rule had been established.

Sharing of river water among A.P., Karnataka and Maharashtra

415. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI. Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra met thrice during the last year to discuss the sharing of river waters; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHIR MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) and (b) The Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra met twice during the last year to discuss the issues relating to the Telugu Ganga Project and sharing of surplus Krishna waters. After discussing various alternative proposals, it was agreed by them to examine these proposals in respective States and to meet again.

Decision to stop refueling of U.S. aircrafts

416. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI:
DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to stop refuelling of US Air-force planes on Indian airports;

(b) who permitted the refuelling of such warships while war is on between belligerent countries at present in the Gulf countries and when;

(c) the number of times the aircrafts refuelled and at which Air Ports, alongwith the number of such aircrafts; and

(d) whether Iraq has protested against refuelling permitted by India; if so, what is the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) Transit and refuelling of US Air Force transport aircraft in India has stopped with effect from 20th February, 1991, following the withdrawal of the request for such a facility to the US Government.

(b) The Government permitted the transit and refuelling of US Air Force transport aircraft for the sole purpose of carrying non-lethal cargo and for evacuation of personnel on humanitarian, medical and emergency grounds. These facilities were not provided for combat aircraft.

(c) Since the Gulf crisis 136 US air force transport aircraft were given transit and refuelling facilities at Bombay, Madras, Agra and Nagpur.

(d) No, Sir. Government have, however, seen the statement issued by the Government of Iraq on this issue. Government have explained to the Government of Iraq that the transit and refuelling facilities provided to US Air Force transport aircraft was solely for the purpose of transporting non-lethal cargo and for evacuating personnel on humanitarian, medical and emergency considerations.

"Deforestation and afforestation by paper manufacturers"

417. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2402 given in the Rajya Sabha on 28th August, 1990 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that non-afforestation by paper manufacturers to the extent they deforest is an ecological irresponsibility; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to prevent such want on destruction of forests for private gain?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND